



Flood Awareness Week

Skagit County annually coordinates training and rehearsal with other emergency flood fight agency personnel. The County also provides emergency information for community awareness.

Actions

- Mail 50,000 Flood Protection brochures to every address in the county.
- Run a two-page insert in the Skagit Valley Herald that includes a flood plain map.
- Air "The Skagit River-Will it Flood Again?" on cable television multiple times.
- Maintain a week-long "Flood Threat" display at the County Courthouse.
- Conduct 16 agency coordination and training meetings.
- Train 175 students in sandbag methodology at the annual high school sandbag competition.
- Conduct flood exercises with staff and agency personnel.

Benefits

- Heightens staff ability to effectively respond during high water events.
- Increases community awareness of flood response.
- Prepares and trains large labor force to sandbag when needed.
- Improves agency coordination between the County, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Dike and Drainage Districts.

National Flood Insurance Community Rating System

Skagit County participates in the National Flood Insurance Program that provides federally backed flood insurance. The program encourages communities to enact and enforce flood plain regulations to ensure that development will not aggravate existing flooding conditions and that new construction will be protected from flood damage. Under the Community Rating System, flood insurance premiums have been reduced 15% as a result of activities undertaken by the County. The focus of the program is to reduce flood losses which includes protecting public health and safety, reducing damage to buildings and contents, and protecting the beneficial floodplain functions. In 1999, Surface Water Management staff developed the Winter 1999-2000 Flood Protection Information brochure and distributed the brochure to every address in the county.

Benefits

- Reduces private flood insurance premiums by 15% to citizens—a savings of more than \$90,000 each year.
- Increases awareness of flood risk.
- Protects public health and safety and reduces damage to buildings and contents.

Watershed

All

Cost

\$16,000

Revenue

80% Skagit County
10% Dike District #12
10% U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Partners

Skagit County
Sedro-Woolley, Mount Vernon, and Burlington- Edison
School Districts
County Dike and Drainage Districts
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Watershed:

Skagit River (WRIA 03)

Cost

\$10,000

Revenue

100% Skagit County

Partners

Skagit County
Insurance Services Offices, Inc.